

PROCLAMATION **GERMAN AMERICA DAY** OCTOBER 6, 2004

WHEREAS, the first group of German families to found a community in North America landed at Philadelphia on the sixth of October in 1683, and since then, millions of German-speaking immigrants have followed so that today, approximately a quarter of all United States citizens are of partial or full German origin; and

WHEREAS, they and their descendants have made substantial contributions to the nature and quality of life in the United States, and many persons of various German-speaking origins have made their home in North Dakota and have contributed greatly to the history, character and nature of our state; and

WHEREAS, the Germans from Russia Heritage Society, at its international convention in North Dakota this past July, endorsed and encouraged the celebration of German America Day, and throughout the state, its members continue to record, study and contribute to North Dakota's heritage; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States and the Governor of North Dakota have proclaimed October 6 as the annual day for the nation and state to recognize and appreciate its German heritage; and

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim October 6, 2004, **GERMAN AMERICA DAY** in the state of North Dakota.

/s/ John Hoeven Governor

Attest:

/s/ Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State